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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/058,149	01/29/2002	Toshihiro Takagi	3064IT/50895	4052

7590 01/28/2009
Crowell & Moring, L.L.P.
P.O. Box 14300
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EXAMINER

SHEPARD, JUSTIN E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2424

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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01/28/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 1/12/09 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Page 2, paragraph beginning with "The combination":

The applicant argues that Kessler, Ikeguchi and Eyer do not disclose or teach a system wherein "in which the main channel data is referenced to change the main channel and then refers to the VCT detected in the corresponding physical channel , thus selecting a sub-channel having the largest/smallest sub-channel number." Kessler teaches a device that allows a user to change a channel using an up or down button (column 5, lines 33-45) using a channel table (column 4, lines 62-66). Kessler also teaches that major channels can include minor channels (figure 2). It is the opinion of the examiner that Kessler teaches a system wherein if the channel up button is pressed while the system was tuned to channel 4.3 that the system would change to channel 24.1. The examiner feels that this procedure meets the limitation that the applicant cited as not being met by the references.

Page 2, last paragraph:

The applicant argues that the limitation argued in the paragraph above isn't met in the rejection of claim 1. As this limitation is not found in claim 1, the argument is moot.

Page 5, paragraph beginning with "Because Lownes":

The applicant argues that as Lownes teaches a device that looks for a new VCT when a recall button is pressed that it can't be added to the system disclosed by Kessler. It is the opinion of the examiner that step 508 of figure 5A of Kessler could be replaced by steps 214 and 216 of figure 2 in Lownes. This would allow for the device to check from a new channel table when the information is not current.

Page 5, last paragraph:

The applicant argues that Lownes could not be combined with Kessler because Kessler works from a static channel table, while Lownes teaches gathering the channel table information from the stream. The combination would be possible and beneficial as it would allow for channels to update their tables without having to reprogram the device's entire channel line up.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Justin E. Shepard whose telephone number is (571) 272-5967. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30-5 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris Kelley can be reached on (571) 272-7331. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2424

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Chris Kelley/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art
Unit 2424

JS